

## **LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

April 27, 2004

The Honorable Board of Directors  
Los Angeles County  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**APPROVE THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S REQUEST TO AMEND  
THE INITIAL PROJECT LIST UNDER SECTION (3), SUBSECTION (d) OF THE SAFE  
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITION OF 1996  
(THIRD DISTRICT - 3 -VOTE MATTER)**

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Approve the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's (Conservancy) request to amend its initial project list, approved by your Board on January 21, 1997, and previously amended August 4, 1998, May 11, 1999, December 18, 2001, December 17, 2002, and May 13, 2003, to add a new acquisition project, the Hormel property in La Sierra Canyon.

### **PURPOSE/ JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

The Conservancy has requested your Board's approval of the proposed acquisition of Hormel property in La Sierra Canyon using funds allocated pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition). The project consists of the acquisition of 29 acres adjacent to Mulholland Highway in the Santa Monica Mountains east of Kanan Road and south of the Ventura Freeway. According to the Conservancy, the property is located entirely within a Los Angeles County-designated Significant Ecological Area and contains year-round surface water and at least four acres of high quality riparian habitat. The proposed acquisition lies adjacent to and near protected land including land owned by the Mountains Restoration Trust and the National Park Service. The acquisition and preservation of this property will protect part

of a key wildlife corridor in the Santa Monica Mountains, core wildlife habitat and diverse native plant communities. A map of the project area is included as Attachment A.

In a related item on today's agenda the Chief Administrative Office is recommending that the County initiate proceedings to accept title to this property when it has been acquired.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The proposed action furthers the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal 1 (Service Excellence), Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), Goal 5 (Children and Families' Well-being) and Goal 6 (Community Service) by assisting the Conservancy in the acquisition of the Hormel property in La Sierra Canyon. The proposed acquisition will add to the protected open space in the Santa Monica Mountains.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Project funding from the District in an estimated amount of \$539,500, will be funded from the \$22,750,000 allocated to the Conservancy under Section (3), Subsection (d) of the 1996 Proposition and already advanced to the Conservancy.

This action to allow acquisition by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, on behalf of the Conservancy, will have no impact on the Operating Budget of the County.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that funds provided to the Conservancy be expended "solely for projects approved by the Board, pursuant to such criteria as the Board may, in its discretion, adopt," provided that those projects are identified in the Conservancy's annual work program transmitted to the Governor and State Legislature and as may be amended from time to time, after a noticed public hearing.

The 1996 Proposition further provides that your Board may disapprove a project within the boundaries of a city only upon a finding that the acquisition or improvement may impact access to or use of a site identified or proposed for present or future sanitary landfill purposes. In addition, your Board previously has adopted procedural requirements requiring a review of proposed Conservancy projects relative to their impact on existing or proposed highways, and their consistency with General or Area Plans.

The additional proposed project meets the procedural requirements of the 1996 Proposition and has been reviewed in accordance with the Conservancy's revised Procedural Guide, adopted by your Board on June 17, 1997. The Department of Public Works has found that the project would not negatively impact current or potential future County sanitary landfill sites (see Attachment B).

The County Counsel's Office and the Department of Regional Planning have determined that there are no inconsistencies or lack of conformity between the unincorporated portion of the proposal and the applicable county planning documents (see Attachment C and Attachment D).

The Department of Public Works has found that the project does not impact any planned County roads or highways (see Attachment E).

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES**

Your Board's approval of this recommendation will allow the Conservancy to acquire the Hormel Property, La Sierra Canyon. It will have no impact on any other District-funded project.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and to return three conformed copies to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Gallagher  
Director, Parks and Recreation

Attachments (5)

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)  
County Counsel

FOR PRICE, ADVERT. SEE  
PAGE 17  
A-10-1



AMES A. NOYES, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

*"Enriching Lives"*

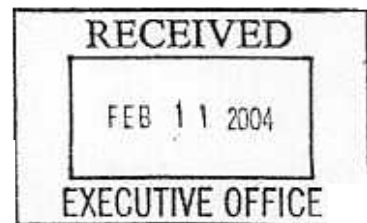
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

February 5, 2004

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: EP-2

TO: Tim Gallagher  
Director of Parks and Recreation  
  
Attention Curt Robertson, Administrator  
Regional Park & Open Space District  
  
FROM: James A. Noyes *SA*  
Director of Public Works



**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S REQUEST  
FOR A NEW ACQUISITION PROJECT**

Pursuant to your correspondence of January 27, 2004, we have reviewed the proposed property acquisition by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Our review was limited to the impact of the proposed acquisition on the solid waste management system in the County of Los Angeles. Based on the information provided, we have found that the proposed acquisition of the properties identified as parcel numbers 2058-017-011 and 2058-017-016 will not negatively impact the solid waste management system.

If you have any questions, please contact me or you may contact Don Wolfe, Chief Deputy Director, at (626) 458-4002, or Shari Afshari, Assistant Deputy Director, at (626) 458-3504, Monday through Thursday, 7 am to 5:30 pm.

SA:my  
P:\seclsn\mconacq



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL**

648 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

March 23, 2004

TDD  
(213) 633-0901  
TELEPHONE  
(213) 974-1834  
TELECOPIER  
(213) 617-7182

Curt Robertson, District Administrator  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
510 South Vermont Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90020

**Re: Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's Request to Add an  
Acquisition Project to its Initial Work Program Approved in  
January 1997**


Dear Mr. Robertson :

As requested in your memorandum dated January 27, 2004, we have reviewed a proposed public acquisition of approximately 90 acres in La Sierra Canyon for its consistency with the County's adopted general plan. The properties are located along Mulholland Highway east of Kanan Road within the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles near the City of Calabasas.

Based on information we received from the planning director, we have determined that there are no inconsistencies or lack of conformity between the proposal and the applicable County planning document.

Very truly yours,

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

By   
JUDITH A. FRIES  
Principal Deputy County Counsel  
Public Works Division

JAF:md

c: James Hartl, Director  
Department of Regional Planning

HOA.228163.



Los Angeles County  
Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*



James E. Hartl, AICP  
Director of Planning

March 22, 2004

Curt Robertson, Administrator  
Los Angeles County Regional Park  
And Open Space District  
433 S. Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975

Dear Mr. Robertson:

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR SANTA MONICA  
MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (APN 2058-017-011 AND -016)**

This letter is in response to your recent request that the Department of Regional Planning review the proposed acquisition of property in La Sierra Canyon by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District on behalf of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Pursuant to Section 65402 of the California Government Code and Section 22.36.010 of the Los Angeles County Code, the following comments are provided with respect to the zoning of the site and conformity of the proposed park with the Los Angeles County General Plan.

The property is zoned A-1-10 (Light agriculture, 10 acre minimum lot size) and is categorized as Mountain Lands 10 in the Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan, a component of the Los Angeles County General Plan.

The A-1 zone allows parks and playgrounds if a conditional use permit is approved (Sec. 22.24.100 of LA County Code). Undeveloped open space is a permitted use that would not require any permit. These uses are also consistent with the Mountain Lands 10 category in the Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan.

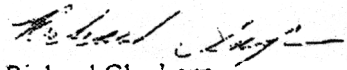
Based upon these facts, the Department of Regional Planning has no objection to the acquisition of the above-described area for park or open space purposes and has determined that such action will not conflict with any written or mapped policy of the Los Angeles County General Plan. A map is attached showing the area plan categories for the area of the current acquisition and proposed future acquisitions and the zoning classifications, which are written in red. The diagonal line areas show the Significant Ecological Area which covers most of the property.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about this determination. You may reach me at (213) 974-6470 or by using any of the means described on the attached sheet.

Curt Robertson  
Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District  
March 22, 2004

Very truly yours.

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING  
James E. Hartl, AICP



Richard Claghorn  
Regional Planning Assistant II  
Land Development Coordinating Center

JEH:SA:rwg

attachment





JAMES A. NOYES, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

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P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

March 1, 2004

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: LD-4

TO: Tim Gallagher, Director  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
  
Attention: Curt Robertson  
Regional Park and Open Space District

FROM: James A. Noyes *JAN*  
Director of Public Works

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S  
NEW ACQUISITION PROJECT  
LA SIERRA CANYON-UPPER (HORMEL PROPERTY)**

As requested in your January 27, 2004, memorandum, we reviewed Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's proposed La Sierra Canyon-Upper Project and determined that the proposed acquisition would not significantly impact County Highway Plan routes.

If you have any questions regarding our response, please have your staff contact Hubert Seto of our Land Development Division at (626) 458-4349.

HS:ca  
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cc: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (Ginny Kruger)